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TO : Mr. Bundy

FROM : R.W. Komer

SUBJECT: Comments on NIE-57

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STAT

Bill, I am in complete agreement with your relatively optimistic paper, and hope you can hold the line. State may give some trouble, although I understand Scammon and his German people are rather in disagreement (he taking a more pessimistic line).

Only one major point, if you are going to discuss the question of when might rearmament actually begin, you will have to take into consideration not only political factors (enabling legislation) but physical ones recruiting, setting up facilities, administrative organization, etc. It has been estimated that it would take six months after the basic agreements for all these steps, including enabling legislation, to be completed. Check Hawley on this. My thought would be to stick to the political side, and not deal with the question when actual rearmament would begin.

Good luck.